

# Combining Models and Observations: Bayesian Approaches

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## Outline

- Main Themes: Goals and Approaches
- Bayesian Hierarchical Models
- Two Classes of Approaches with Examples
- Discussion

Supported by NSF, EPA, NASA

# Introduction

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- Selected Motivations

- computational & observational enhancements offer both new opportunities & new challenges
- need for uncertainty management

- Goals:

- develop probability distribution for unknowns of interest.
- combine information: observations, theory, computer model output, past experience, etc.

- Framework: Bayesian Hierarchical Models

# Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling (BHM)

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- BHM: sequence of conditional probability models
- Quintessential BHM: Data  $Y$ ; Process of interest  $X$ 
  1. Data Model             $[ Y \mid X, \theta ]$
  2. Process Model         $[ X \mid \theta ]$
  3. Parameter Model  $[ \theta ]$
- Bayes' Theorem:  $[ X, \theta \mid Y ]$

## Compare

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- “Statistics”:  $[ Y \mid \theta ]$  (&  $[ \theta ]$  for Bayesians)
- “Physics”:  $[ X \mid \tilde{\theta}(Y) ]$

# Approaches

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## 1. Stochastic models incorporating science

### (a) Physical-statistical modeling (*Berliner 2003 JGR*)

From “ $F=ma$ ” to process model [  $\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

Three examples

### (b) Qualitative use of theory

(eg., Pacific SST model *Berliner et al. 2000 J. Climate*)

## 2. Incorporating large-scale computer models

### (a) From model output to priors on

- Parameters [  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

- Model output as samples from process model [  $\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

### (b) Model output as “observations” ( $\mathbf{Y}$ )

## 3. Combinations

## Lab-Sea Air Model *Royle et al 1998*

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- Process: near-surface (10m) winds  $\mathbf{W} = (\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V})$
- Why? Several uses (e.g., driving ocean models)
- Data: Scatterometer-based estimates
- Physics: Geostrophic Approximation “Winds are linear in the gradient of the pressure field”

$$\mathbf{v}_g = \mathbf{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \quad \mathbf{u}_g = -\mathbf{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial \mathbf{y}}$$

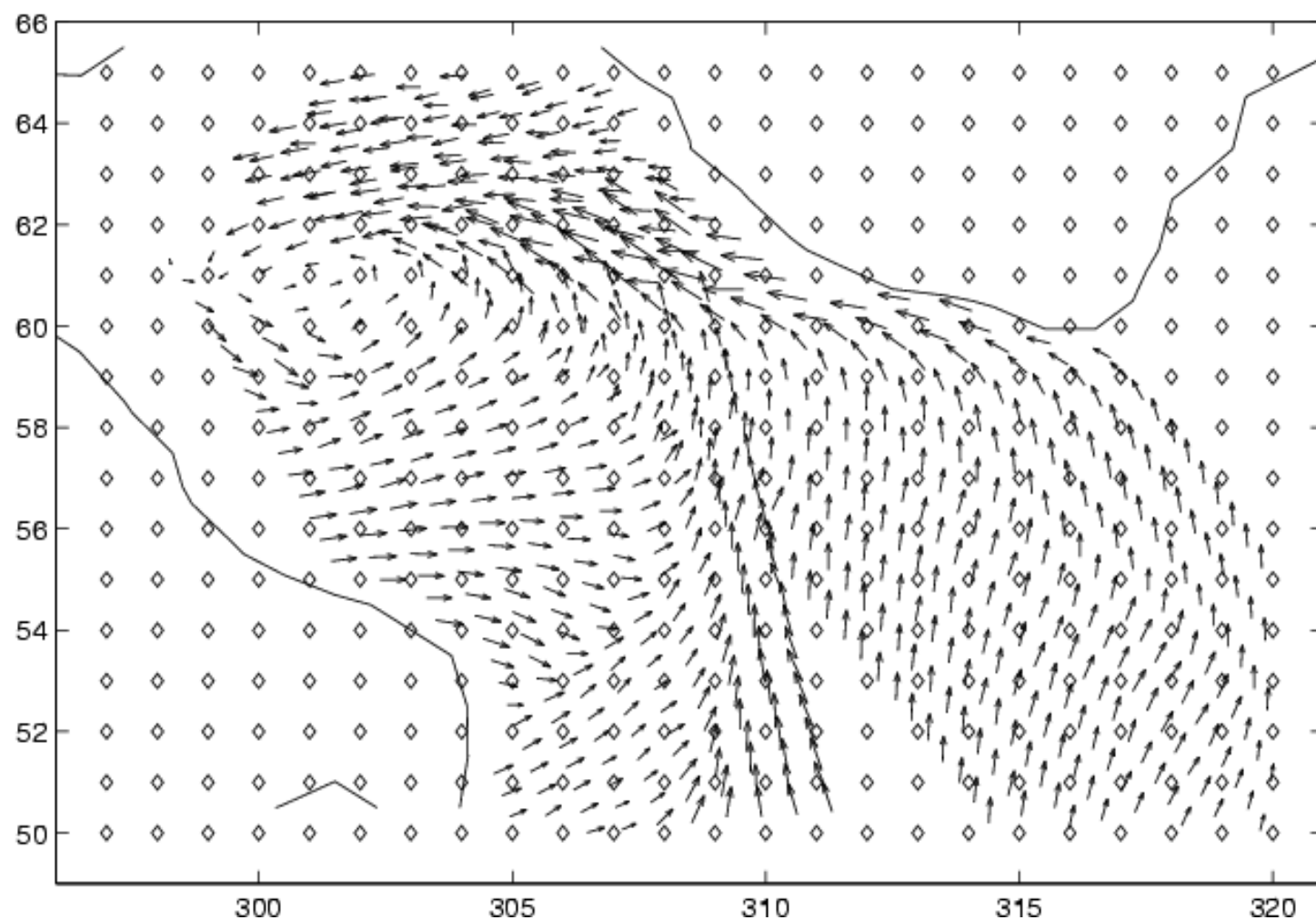
Balance pressure potential & Coriolis

Pretty good at mid-latitudes & upper altitude

Not good at 10m (friction, turbulence); or if large curvature in pressure field

## Lab Sea Grid and Scatterometer Data

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# Stochastic Geostrophic Model

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Let  $(U, V), P$  be gridded wind vector components and pressure.

- Data Model:  $[D_u, D_v | U, V, \sigma_d^2]$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_u \\ D_v \end{pmatrix} \sim \text{Gau} \left( K \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_d^2 \mathbf{I} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_d^2 \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

- Process Model:

$$- [U, V | P, \mu_u, \mu_v, \beta, \Sigma_{uv}]:$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} \sim \text{Gau} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \mu_u \mathbf{1} + B_u(\beta)P \\ \mu_v \mathbf{1} + B_v(\beta)P \end{pmatrix}, \Sigma_{uv} \otimes \mathbf{I}^* \right)$$

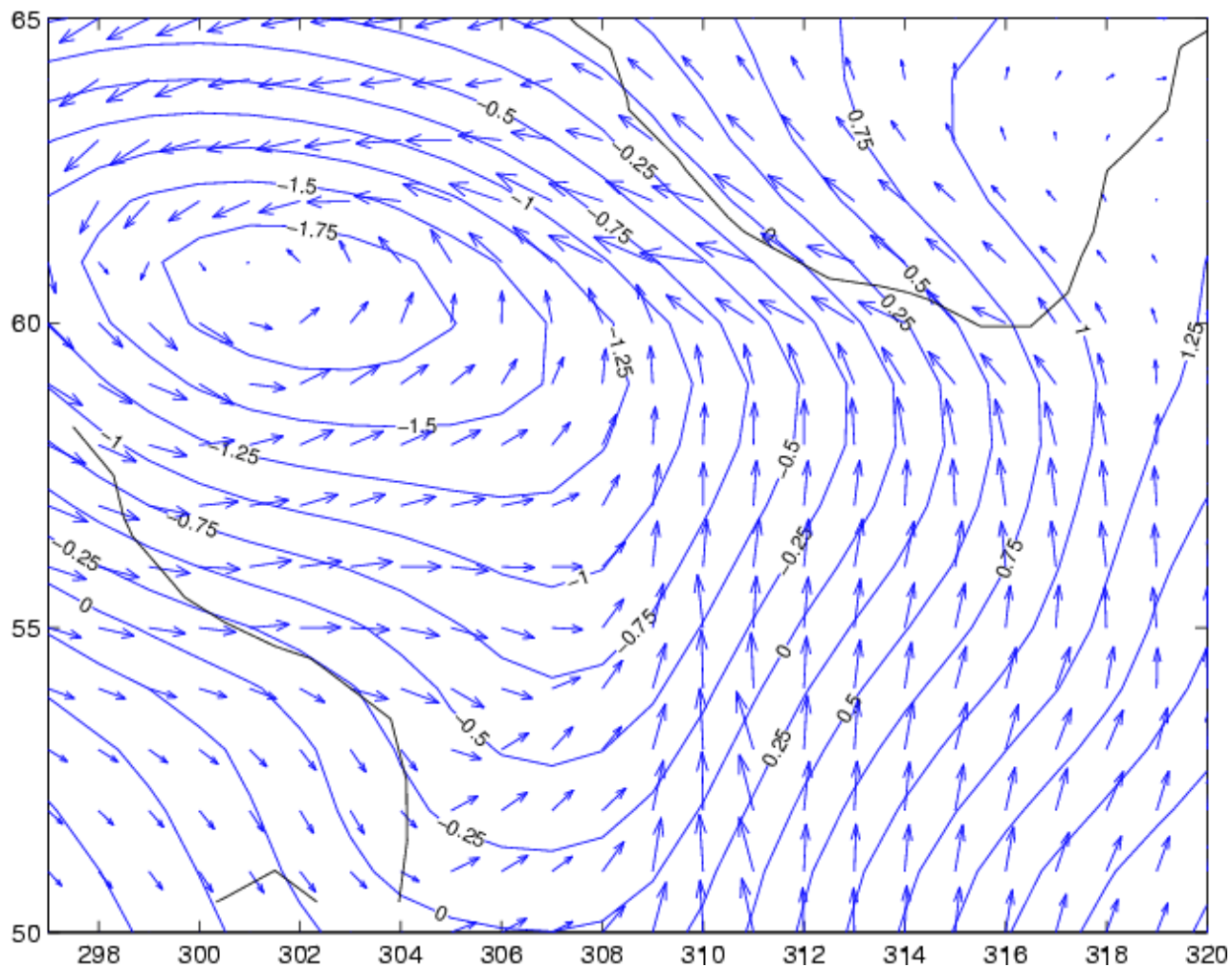
$B$ 's: discrete derivative estimates with random coefficients

$$- [P | \mu_p, \Sigma_p] \text{ (Thiebaut 1985)}$$

- Parameter priors

## Posterior Means: Winds and Pressure Field

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## Glacial Dynamics *Berliner et al. 2008 J. Glaciol.*

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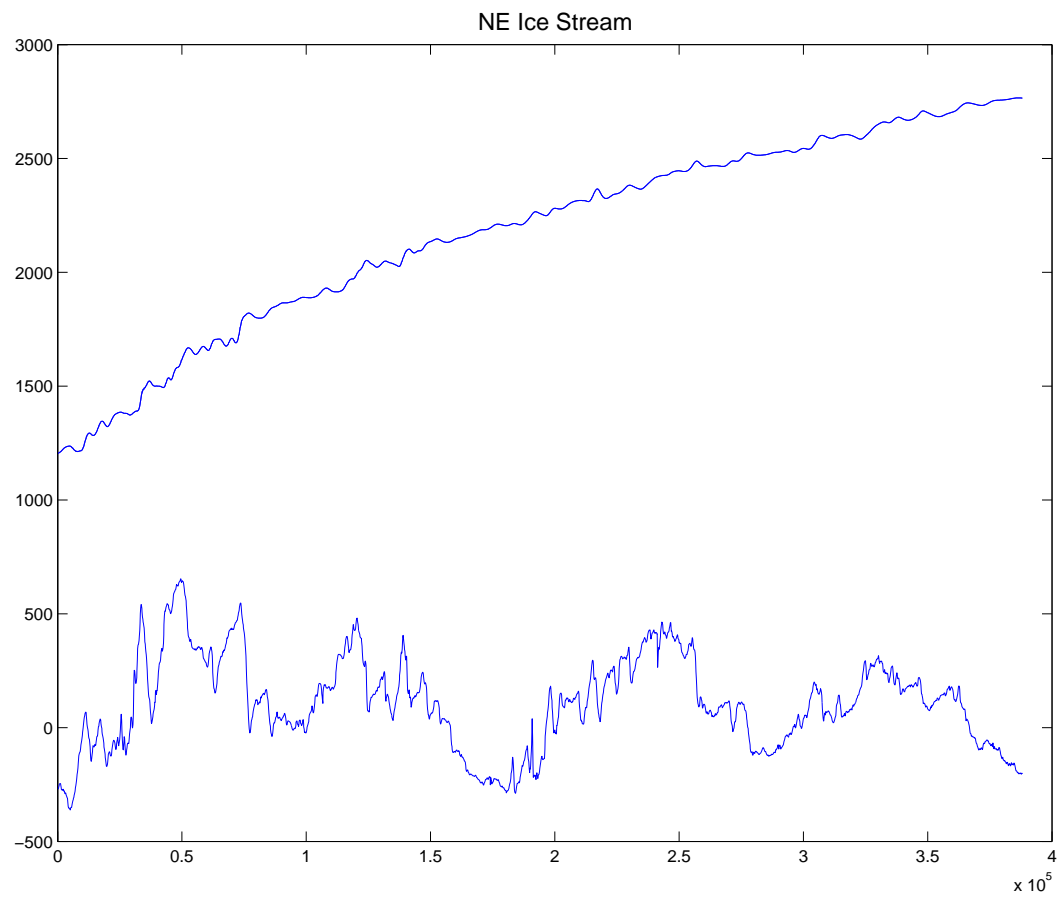
- Flow: gravity moderated by drag (base and sides) & ....
- Simple flow models: flow from geometry.

## Data

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Program for Arctic Climate Regional Assessments (PARCA)  
Radarsat Antarctic Mapping Project (RAMP)

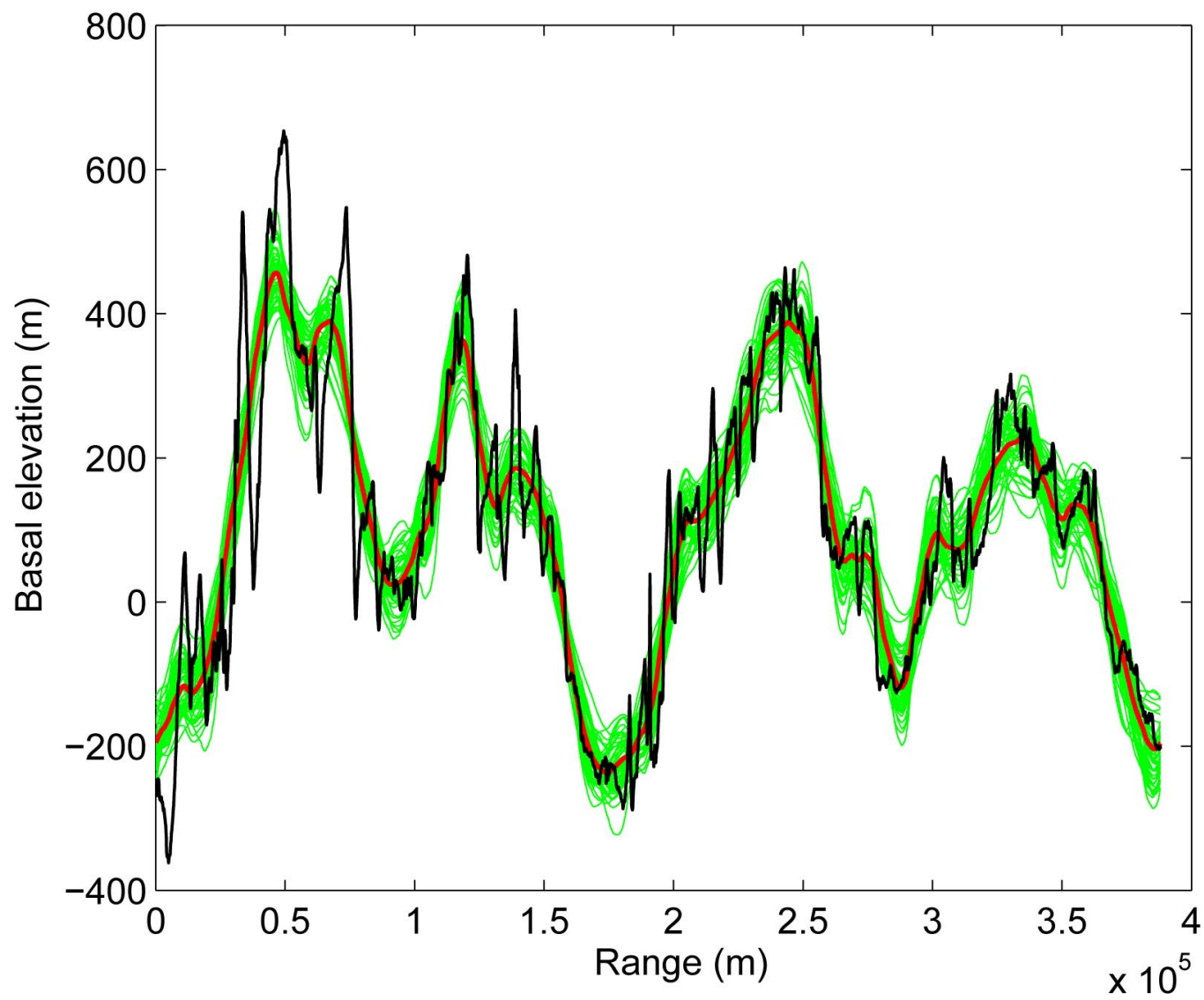
- S: surface topography (Laser altimetry)
- B: basal topography (Radar altimetry)
- U: velocity data (Interferometry)

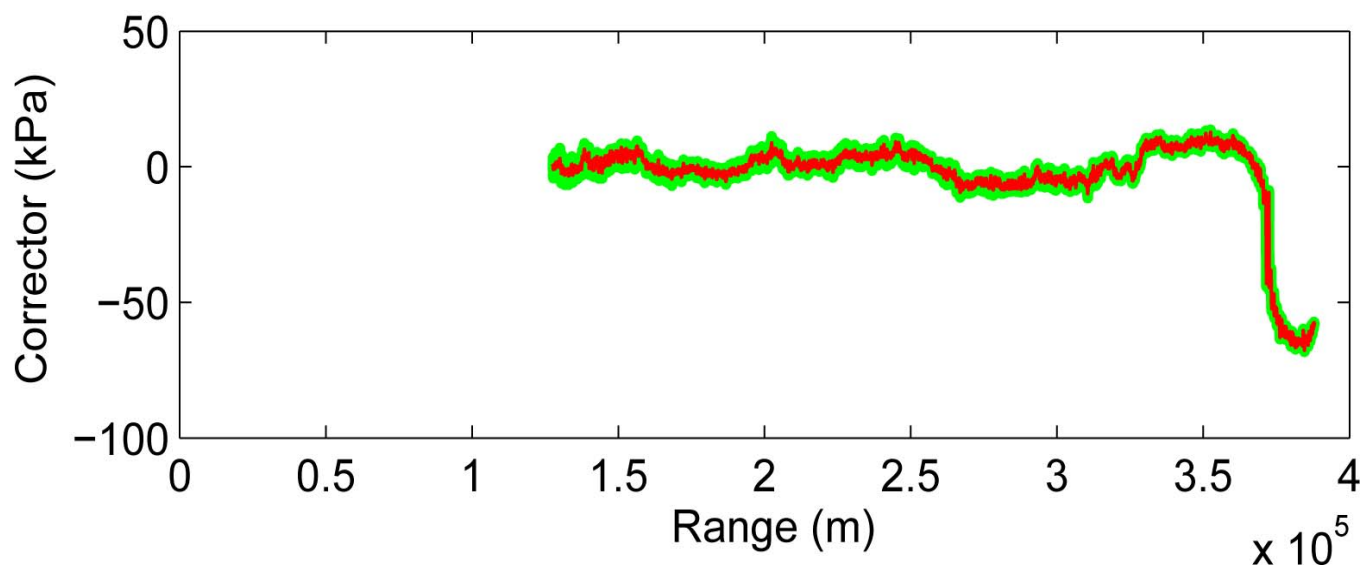
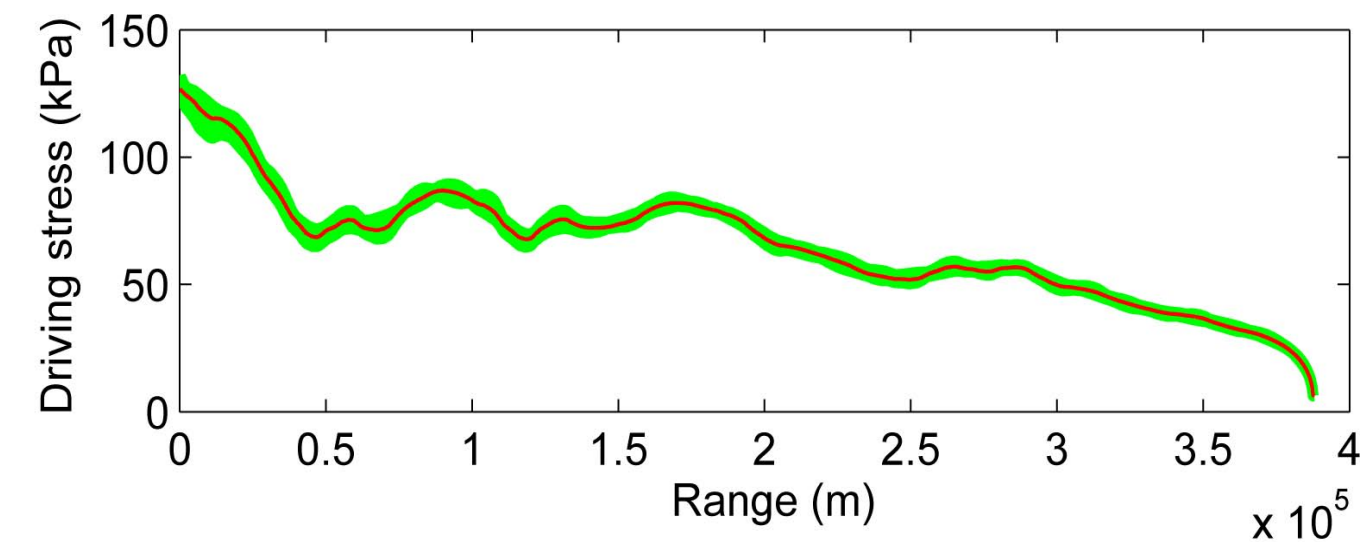


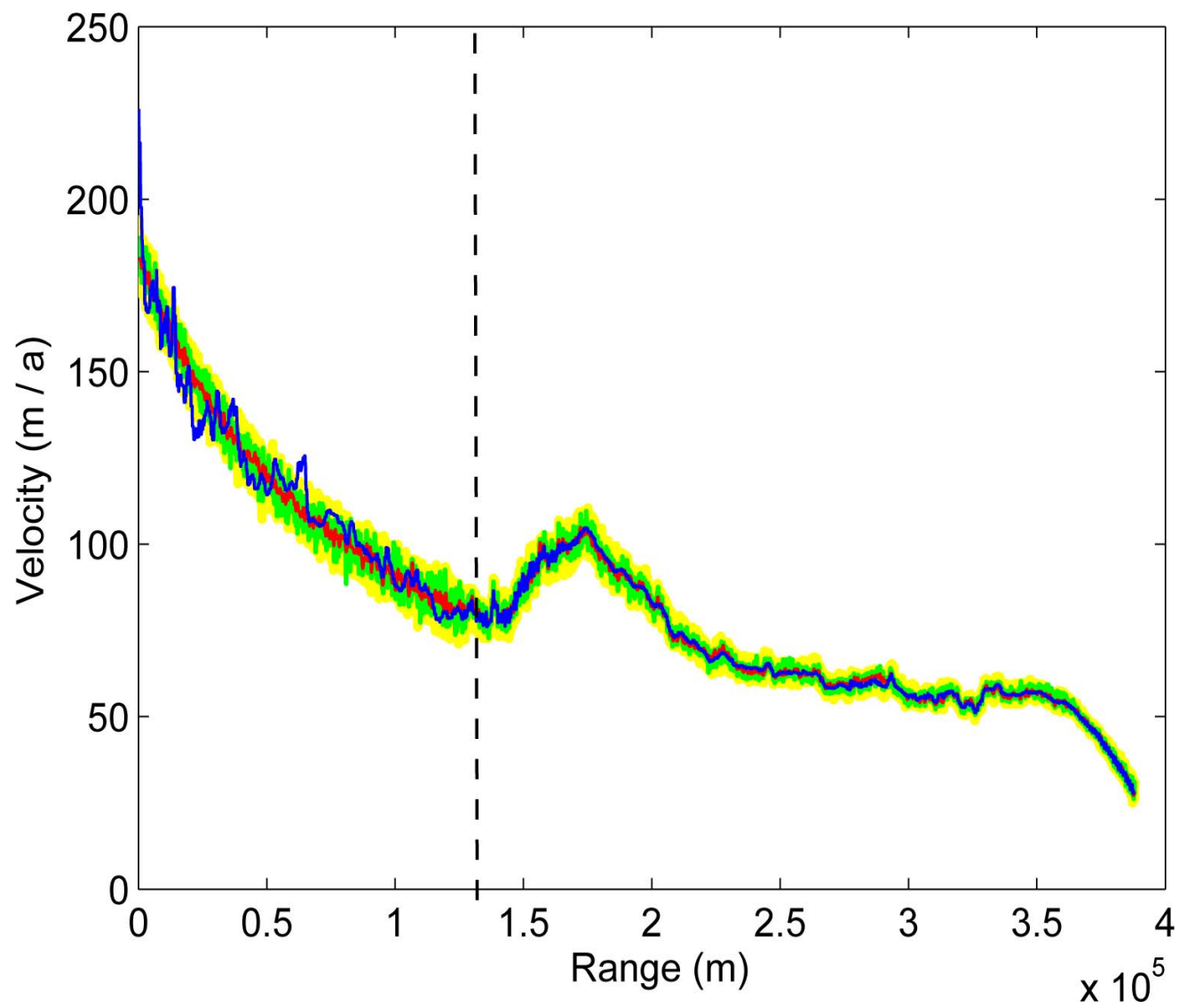
# Modelling

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- Processes: surface; s: base; H: thickness; u: velocity
- Physical Model
  - Basal Stress  $\tau = -\rho g H s' + \text{stuff}$
  - Velocities  $u = u_b + \beta_0 H \tau^n$   
where  $u_b = k \tau^p (\rho g H)^{-q}$
- Our Model
  - Basal Stress  $\tilde{\tau} = -\rho g \tilde{H} \tilde{s}' + \eta$   
where  $\eta$  is a “corrector process”,  $\tilde{H}, \tilde{s}$  are unknown
  - Velocities  $u = \tilde{u}_b + \beta \tilde{H} \tilde{\tau}^n + e$   
where  $u_b = k \tilde{\tau}^p (\rho g \tilde{H})^{-q}$  or an unknown constant,  
 $\beta$  is unknown,  $e$  is a noise process.
  - Smoothing







## Air-Sea Interaction *Berliner et al 2004 JGR*

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- Processes:

- Ocean streamfunction  $\psi$  (feature related to currents)
- Near-surface winds  $W$

- Data

- $D_a$  Wind data (scatterometer)
- $D_o$  Ocean data (altimeter)

- Physics: Quasi-geostrophy (QG)

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{r^2}\right) \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -\mathbf{J}(\psi, \nabla^2 \psi) - \beta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\rho H} \text{curl}_z \tau(W) - \gamma \nabla^2 \psi + a_h \nabla^4 \psi$$

- Stochastic:  $[\psi|W]$  from QG

Couple with  $[W]$  and we're “done”

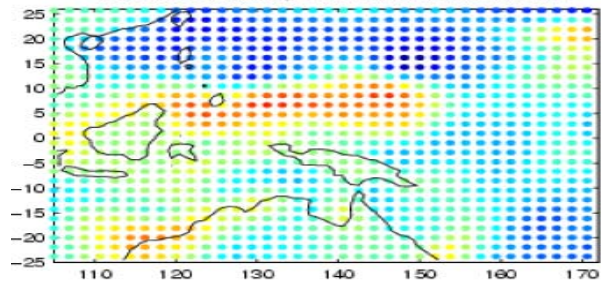
# Near-surface Ocean Winds *Wikle et al 2001 JASA*

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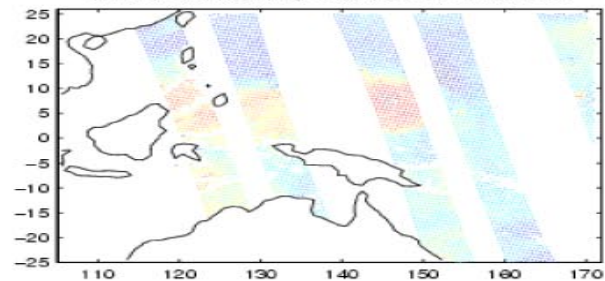
- Data sources
  - Scatterometer
  - NCEP Analyses
- Space-time process model
  - Modes of linearized shallow-fluid equations (large scales)
  - Wavelets (small scales)
  - Both with time-varying coefficients
- Priors: turbulence theory



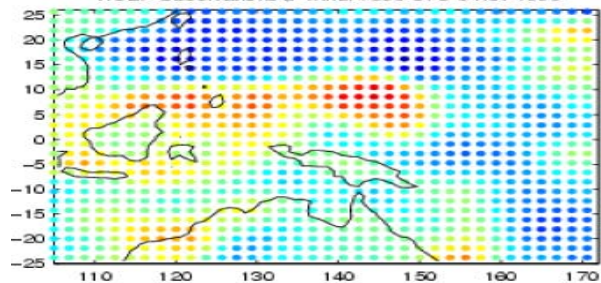
NCEP Observations u-wind: 1200 UTC 6 Nov 1998



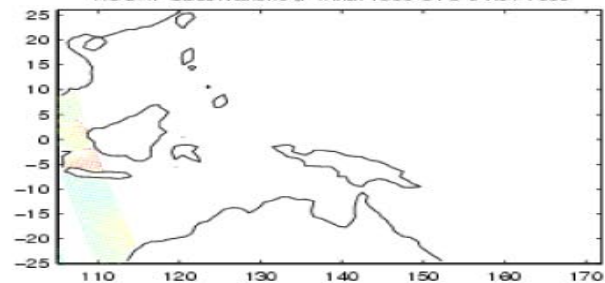
NSCAT Observations u-wind: 1200 UTC 6 Nov 1998



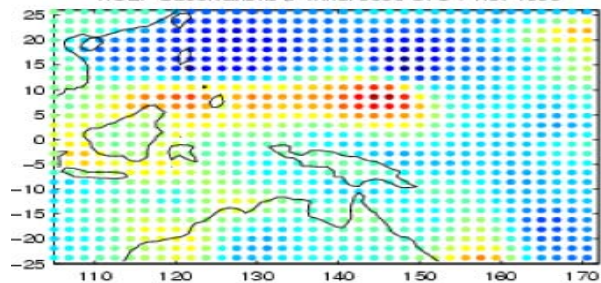
NCEP Observations u-wind: 1800 UTC 6 Nov 1998



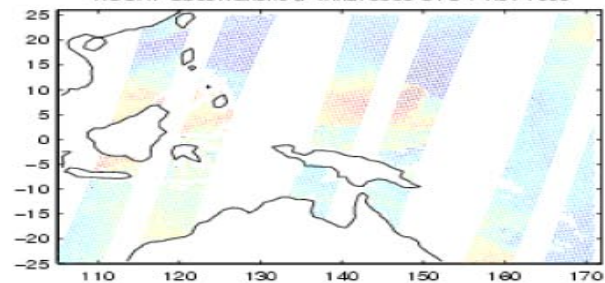
NSCAT Observations u-wind: 1800 UTC 6 Nov 1998



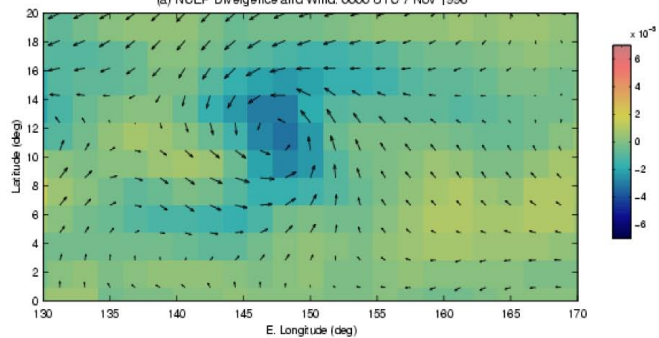
NCEP Observations u-wind: 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1998



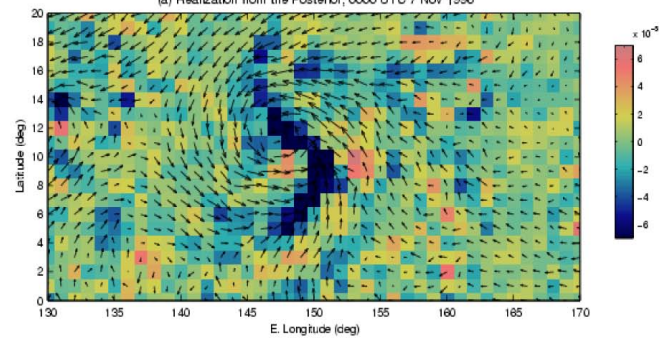
NSCAT Observations u-wind: 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1998



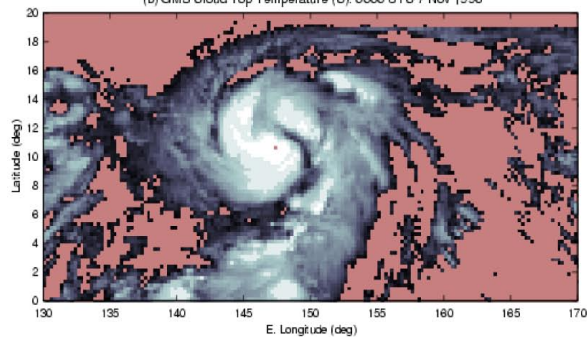
(a) NCEP Divergence and Wind: 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



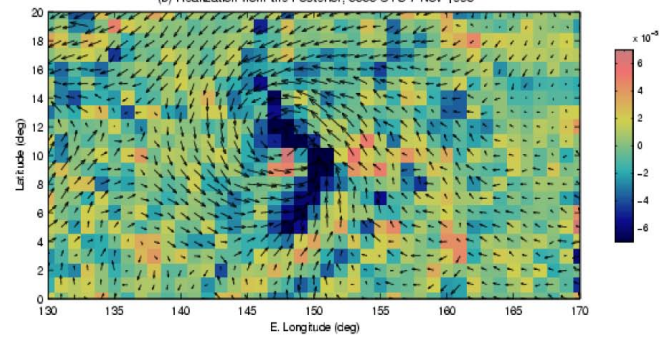
(a) Realization from the Posterior; 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



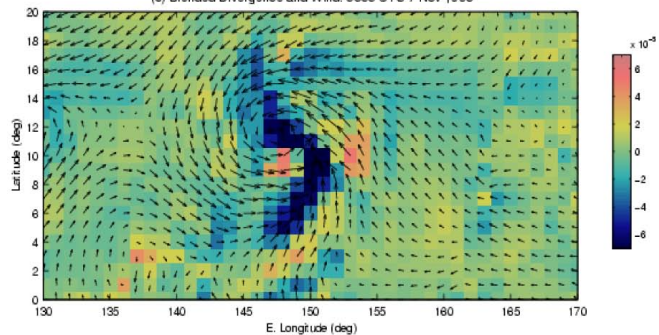
(b) GMS Cloud Top Temperature (C): 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



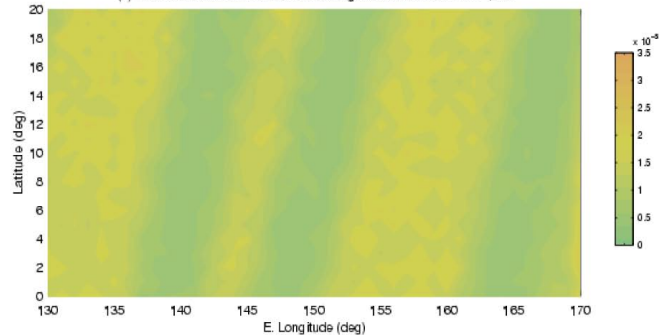
(b) Realization from the Posterior; 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



(c) Blanded Divergence and Wind: 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



(c) Posterior Standard Deviation for Divergence: 0000 UTC 7 Nov 1996



# Discussion

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- No claim of solving PDE
  - we often introduce noise ( but not “solving” SPDE)
  - made parameters random
  - role of stability (i.e., CFL conditions) depends on data quality and goals
- No free lunch: Concerns about
  - computation (MCMC; importance sampling)
  - quality of each component of a BHM
- Transition to Part II: We usually need very large ensembles  
Not practical if  $[ X | \theta ]$  involves a massive computer model

# Combining Models and Observations: Bayesian Approaches II

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## Goals

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- Develop probability distribution for unknowns of interest.
- Combine information: observations, theory, computer model output, past experience, etc.
- Do all this while accounting for uncertainty
- Framework: Bayesian Hierarchical Models

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# Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling (BHM)

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## Compare

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# Approaches

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## 1. Stochastic models incorporating science

### (a) Physical-statistical modeling (*Berliner 2003 JGR*)

From “F=ma” to process model [  $\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

(Three examples)

### (b) Qualitative use of theory

(eg., Simple Pacific SST model *Berliner et al. 2000 J. Climate*)

## 2. Incorporating large-scale computer models

### (a) From model output to priors on

- Parameters [  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

- Model output as samples from process model [  $\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}$  ]

### (b) Model output as observations

## 3. Combinations

## (a) From model output to priors

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- Think of model output runs  $O_1, \dots, O_n$  as a sample from some distribution
- Do data analysis on the O's to estimate distribution
  - develop prior on X:  $[X]$  or  $[X | \theta]$
  - develop  $[\theta]$
- Common Example: O's are spatial fields:  
estimate spatial covariance function of X based on O's.

## Ex) Anthropogenic Climate Change

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- Detection & Attribution: CO<sub>2</sub> and temperature
- $g$  spatial pattern of anticipated CO<sub>2</sub> impacts  
(usually based on a climate system model)
- Model: Data =  $a g$  + noise
- Test  $a = 0$  vrs  $a = \mu_c$



## **BHM** *Berliner, Levine & Shea 2000 J. Climate 2000*

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- NCAR Climate System Model (CSM)
- 1000 year control run; 300 year CO<sub>2</sub>-forced run
- Data: Jones' surface temperature record

## Process: True Surface Temperature T Record

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1. [Data | T] :  $D \sim \text{Gau}(KT, \Sigma_D)$

K maps data to CSM grid;  $\Sigma_D$  from literature.

2. [T | a]:  $T \sim \text{Gau}(aG, \Sigma_T)$

3. [a] =  $p \text{Gau}(0, \tau^2) + (1 - p) \text{Gau}(\mu_c, \tau_c^2)$

- $\Sigma_T$ : estimated using the model output.
- g: (CO<sub>2</sub>-forced output) minus (control output).
- Hyperparameter estimation via subsampling model output.
  - Control Run: broken into 30 samples of length 10.  
Regress sample onto g.  
Produces 30 estimates of a under “no forcing”  
Use their variance to estimate  $\tau^2$
  - Forced Run: similar procedure to estimate  $\mu_c, \tau_c^2$

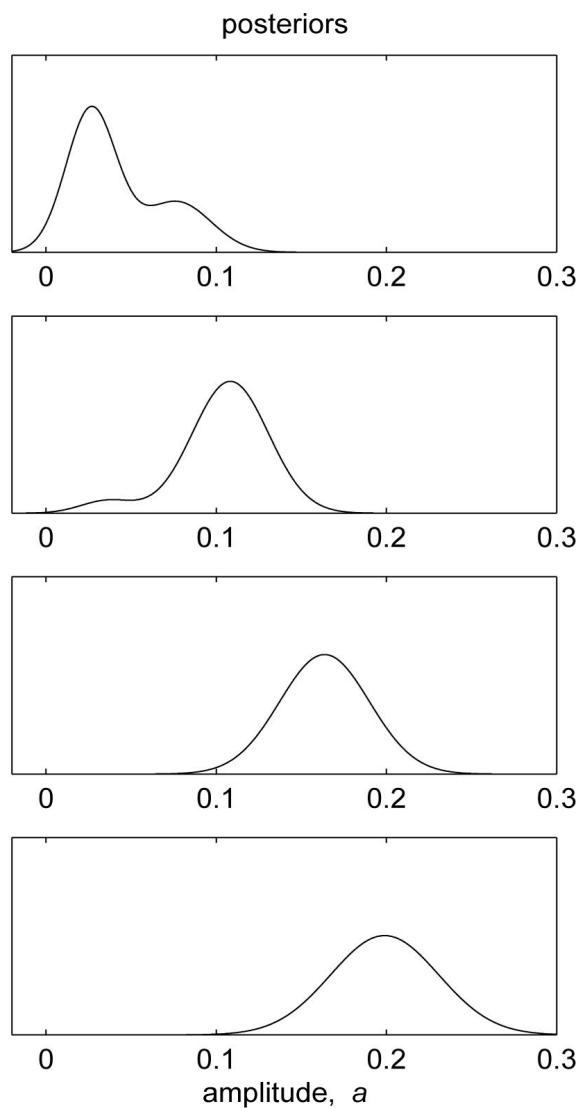
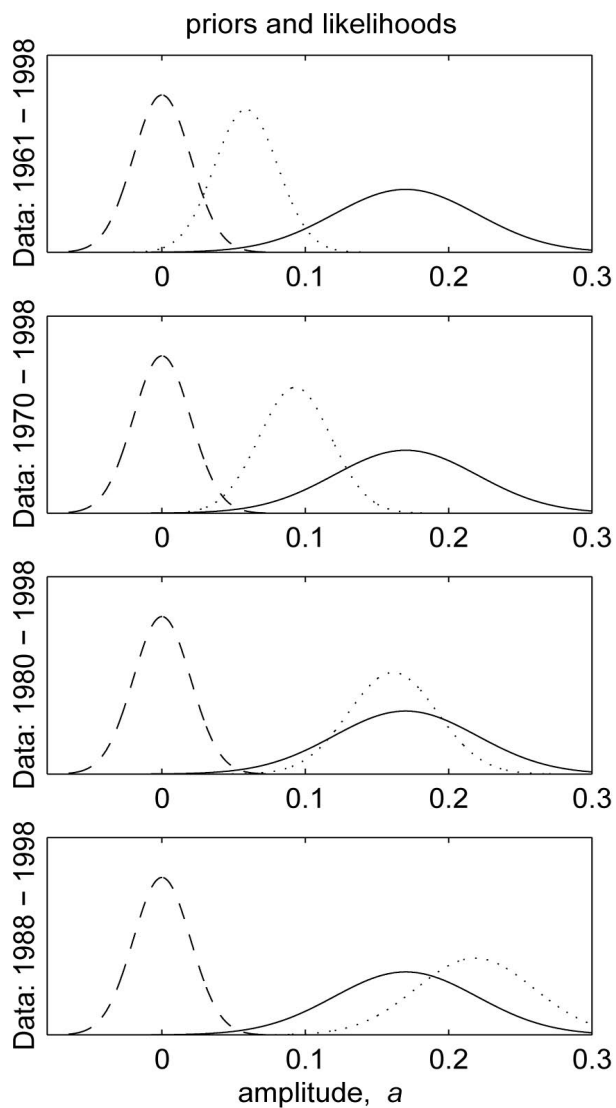
# Analyses

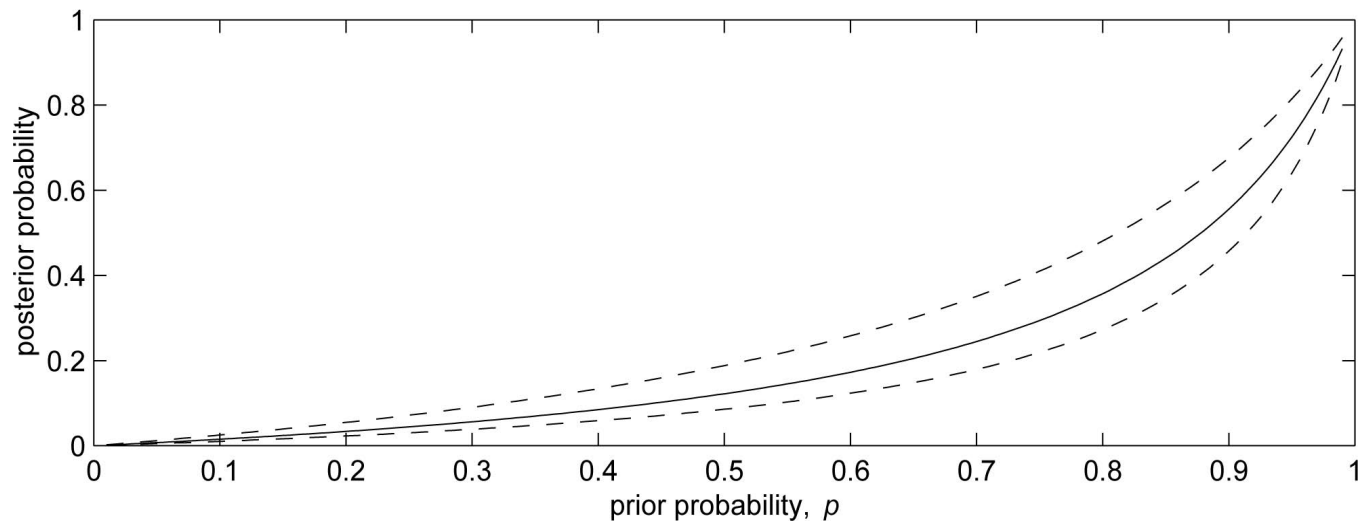
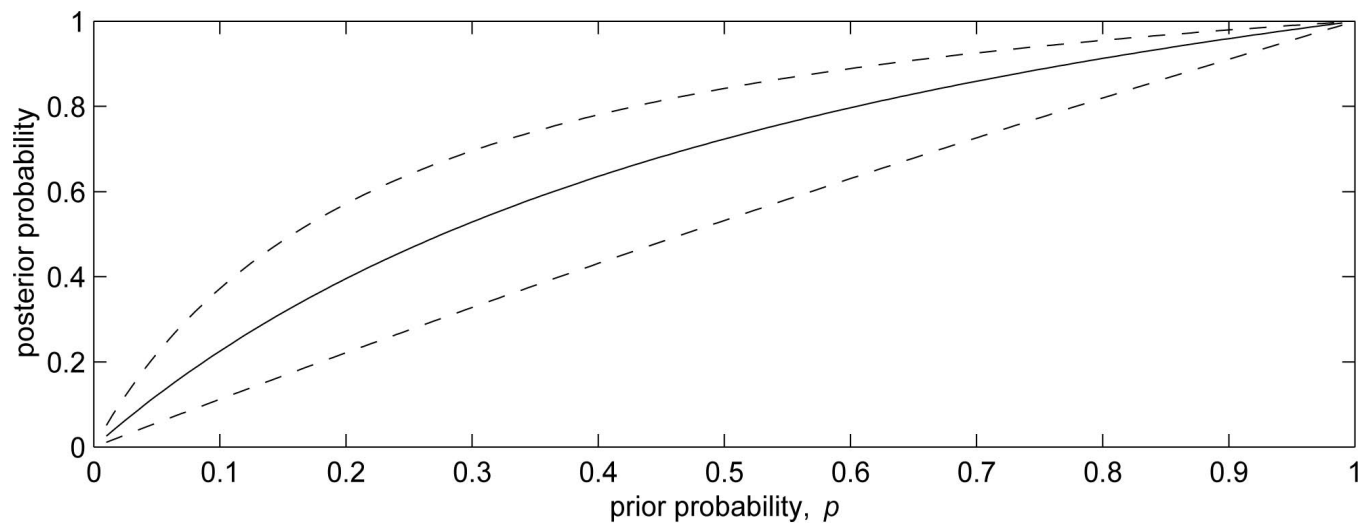
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- Let  $\hat{a}$  be generalized least squares estimate of  $a$ : Posterior is

$$[a \mid \hat{a}] = p(\hat{a}) \text{Gau}(\cdot, \cdot) + (1 - p(\hat{a})) \text{Gau}(\cdot, \cdot)$$

- Uncertainty about uncertainty:  
ranges over classes of priors and as  $p$  varies
- $P(a \approx 0 \mid \hat{a})$  &  $P(a \approx \mu_c \mid \hat{a})$





## (b) Model output as observations

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- Act as if no formal difference between model output & observations
- In many cases “observations” are “model output”
- Nice way to combine information sources  
“Observe” what you can; compute what you can’t”
- Experimental Design  
Combined observational-computer model experiments
- Other contexts!! (weather forecasting)

# Multimodel ensembles as observations

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- Set-up:  $m = 1, \dots, M$  models.  
Scalar (for now) climate variable  $X$ . (time fixed)
- Data Model: Three Main Steps:

For  $k^{\text{th}}$  ensemble member from Model  $m$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{mk} &= \mu_m + e_{mk}, \text{ (Step 1)} \\ &= (\beta + b_m + e_{\mu_m}) + e_{mk}, \text{ (Step 2)} \\ &= ((X + e_{\beta}) + (b_{0m} + e_{b_m}) + e_{\mu_m}) + e_{mk}, \text{ (Step 3)} \end{aligned}$$

- $X$  vrs  $\beta$  is key

## Formally:

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$\vec{Y}_m$ : ensemble of size  $n_m$  of derived estimates of  $X$  from model  $m$ .

1. Given means and variances  $\mu_m, \sigma_{Y_m}^2$ ;  
 $\vec{Y}_m$  are independent and

$$\vec{Y}_m | \mu_m \sim \text{Gau}(\mu_m \vec{1}_{n_m}, \sigma_{Y_m}^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_m})$$

2. Given  $\beta$ , biases  $b_m$  and variances  $\sigma_{\mu_m}^2$ ;  
 $\mu_m$  are independent and

$$\mu_m | \beta, b_m \sim \text{Gau}(\beta + b_m, \sigma_{\mu_m}^2)$$

3. Given  $X$ ,

$$\beta | X \sim \text{Gau}(X, \sigma_{\beta}^2) \text{ and } b_m | X \sim \text{Gau}(b_{0m}, \sigma_{b_m}^2)$$



## Implied Marginal: “Y given X”

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Integrating out  $\beta$  induces dependence:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{Y}_1 \\ \vec{Y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{Y}_M \end{pmatrix} | \mathbf{X} \sim \text{Gau} \left( \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}_{01}) \vec{1}_{n_1} \\ (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}_{02}) \vec{1}_{n_2} \\ \vdots \\ (\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}_{0M}) \vec{1}_{n_M} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_1 & \mathbf{C}_{12} & \dots & \mathbf{C}_{1M} \\ \mathbf{C}_{21} & \Sigma_2 & \dots & \mathbf{C}_{2M} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \mathbf{C}_{M1} & \dots & \dots & \Sigma_M \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

- $\mathbf{C}_{mm'}$  is  $n_m \times n_{m'}$  with all entries  $\sigma_\beta^2$
- $v_m^2 = \sigma_{\mu_m}^2 + \sigma_{b_m}^2$  and

$$\Sigma_m = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_\beta^2 + v_m^2 + \sigma_{Y_m}^2 & \sigma_\beta^2 + v_m^2 & \dots & \dots \\ \sigma_\beta^2 + v_m^2 & \sigma_\beta^2 + v_m^2 + \sigma_{Y_m}^2 & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \sigma_\beta^2 + v_m^2 + \sigma_{Y_m}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Remarks

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- Covariances in marginal
  - Modify intuition about value of increasing ensemble size
  - Infinite ensembles do not give “perfect” forecasts:  
if all biases are 0, “infinite” ensembles tell the value of  $\beta$ ,  
not  $X$
- $d$  dimensional  $X$ :  $\sigma$ 's become  $\Sigma$ 's

# Hemispheric Surface Temperatures

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- $d=2$ . X: hemispheric- & monthly-averaged surface temp's
- Observations Y: 1882-2001. Model output O: 2002-2097.
- $M=2$ : PCM, CCSM (THANKS: Claudia Tebaldi, NCAR)

## Background

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- Anthropogenic Climate Change:
  - CO<sub>2</sub> emissions forecasts: IPCC-SRES scenarios (we used 3)
  - Plugged into models: Climate forecasts
- Our view here
  - Climate-weather: multiscale phenomena
  - “Climate” as parameters of distribution of “weather”  
(*Berliner 2003: Stat. Sci.*)

# Model Overview

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## 1. $[Y|X^p, \theta][O|X^f, \theta]$

- $[Y|X^p, \theta]$ : measurement error model
- $[O|X^f, \theta]$ : 3 stage data model above, with
  - conditional independence of  $O$  over time.
  - covariances  $\Sigma_\beta, \Sigma_{\mu_m}, \Sigma_{Y_m}$  and biases constant
  - $\Sigma_{\mu_m} + \Sigma_{Y_m} = \Sigma_m$

## 2. $[X^P|\theta][X^f|X^P, \theta]$

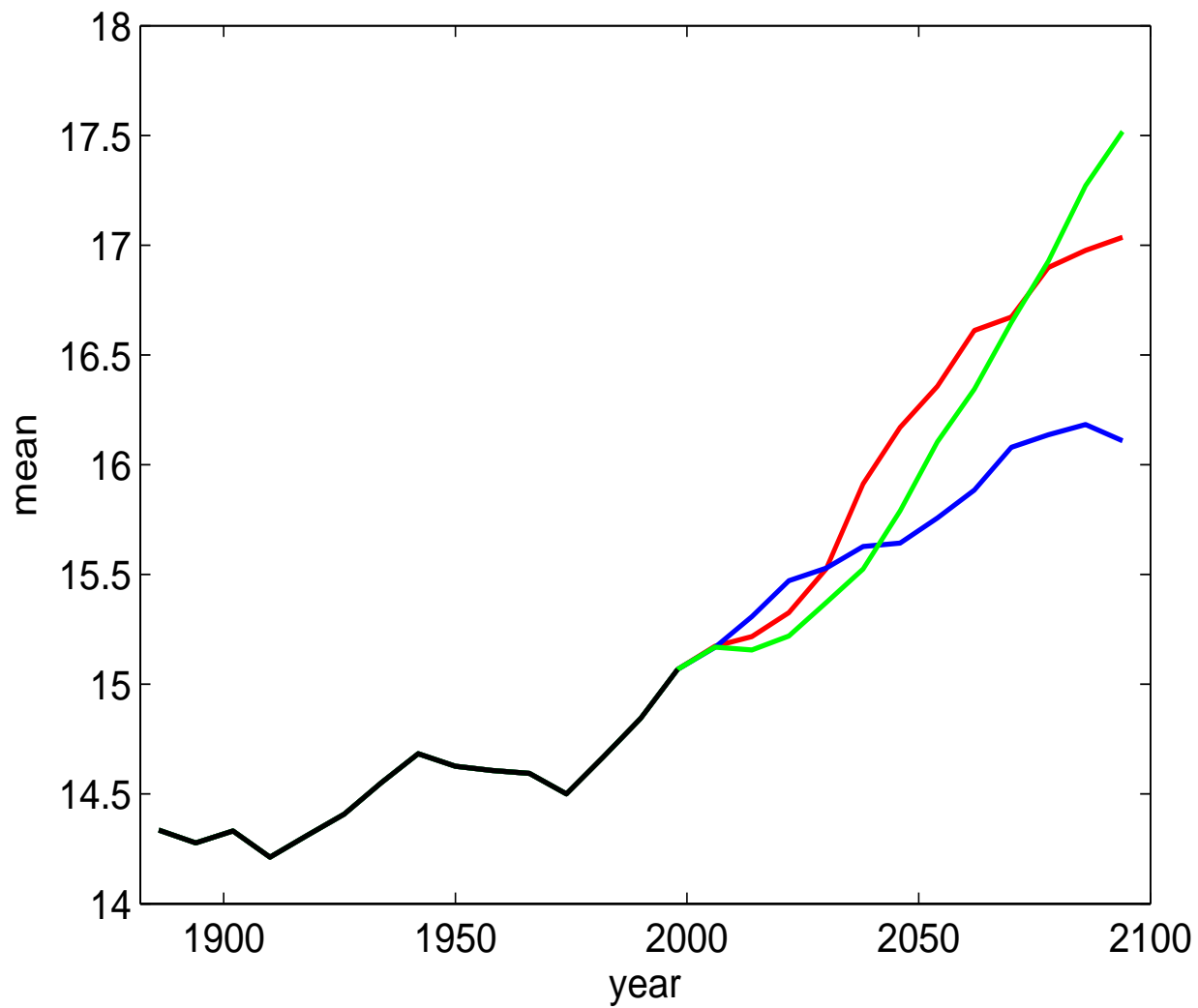
- Time series models (AR) with time varying parameters

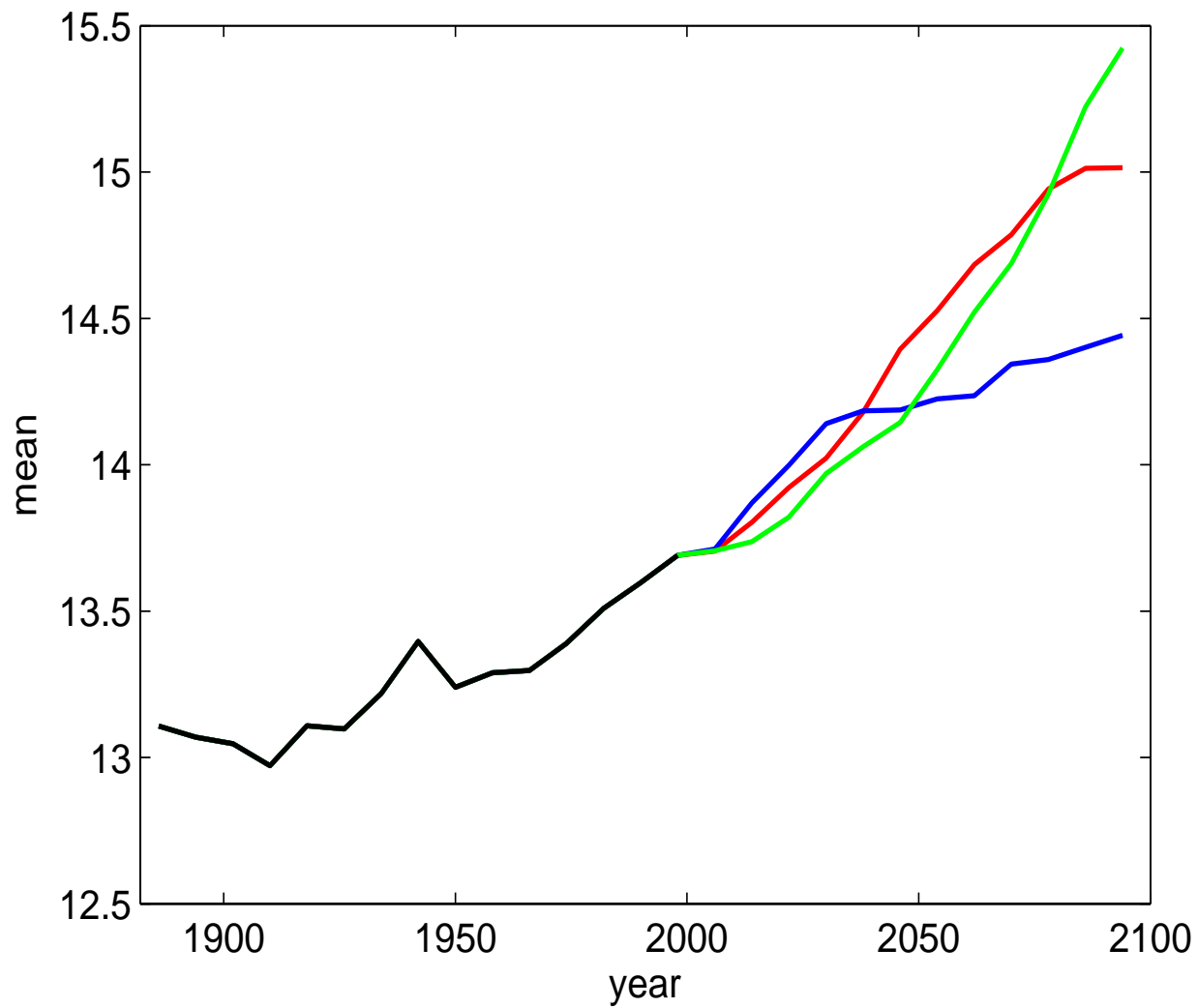
$$X_t = \alpha_{i(t)} + \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{j(t)}^n & 0 \\ 0 & \eta_{j(t)}^s \end{pmatrix} (X_{t-1} - \alpha_{i(t-1)}) + e_{(t)}$$

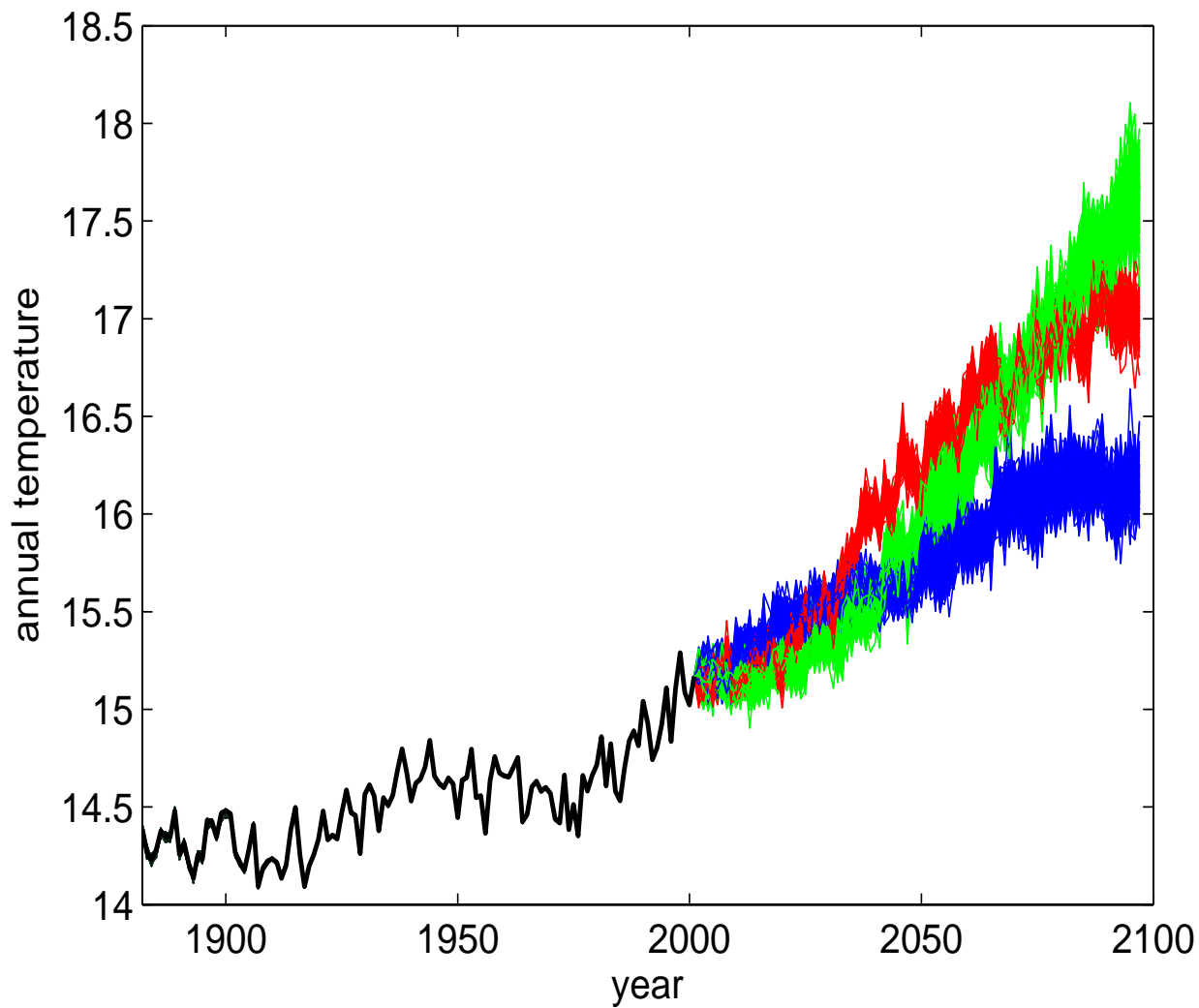
- Correlated errors

## 3. $[\theta]$

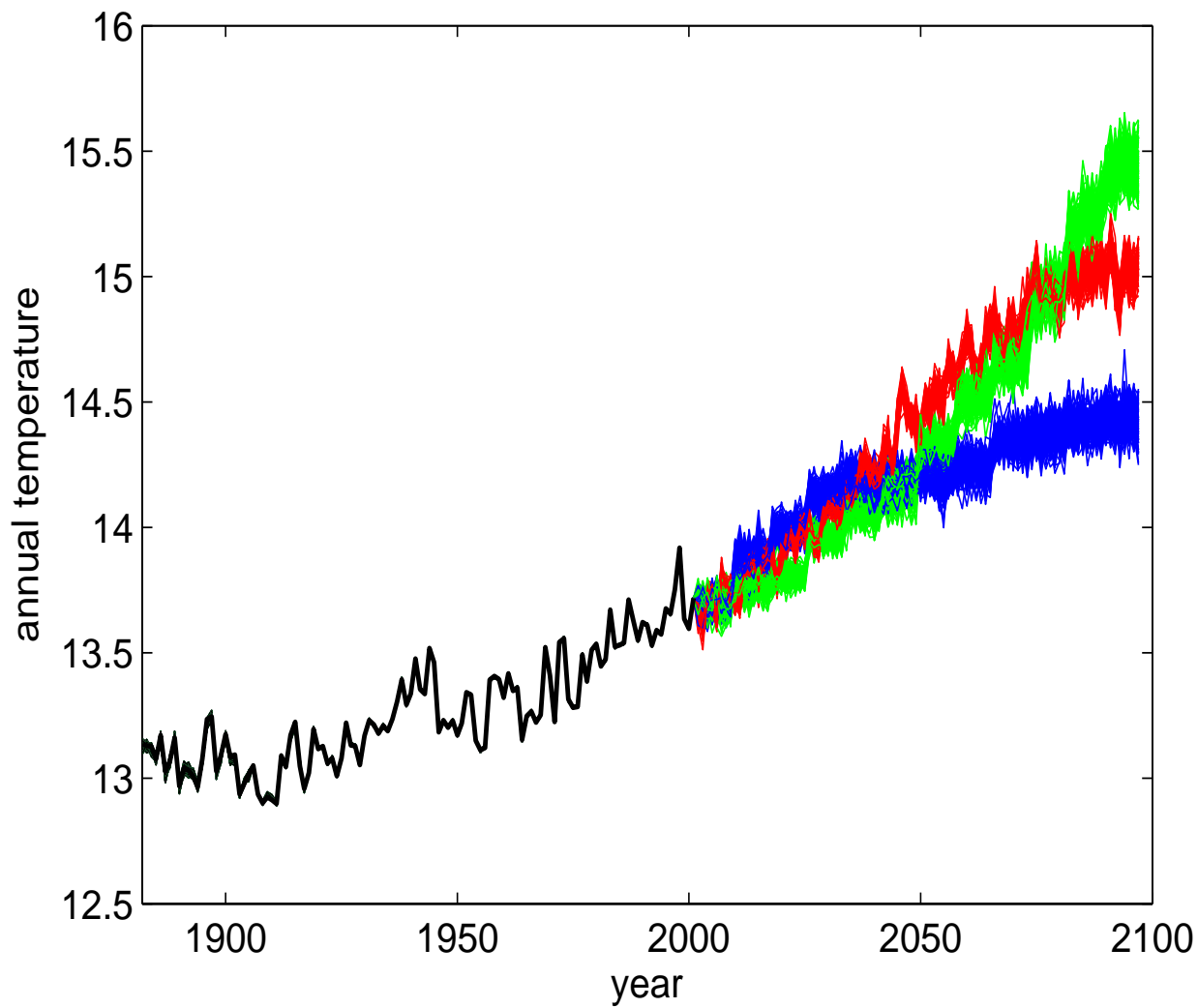
- Time evolution:  $\alpha_{i(t)}$  slow;  $\eta_{j(t)}$  moderate;  $e_t$  fast  
(but variances of  $e_t$  slow)
- $\alpha_i = a + b \text{ CO}_{2i} + \text{noise}$
- Obs period:  $\eta_j = c + d \text{ SOI}_j + \text{noise}$   
Fore period: AR model (i.e., SOI not observed)
- Variances of  $e_t$ : AR-like
- Model selection!!!  
Used Obs period data only: slow: 8 years; moderate: two years

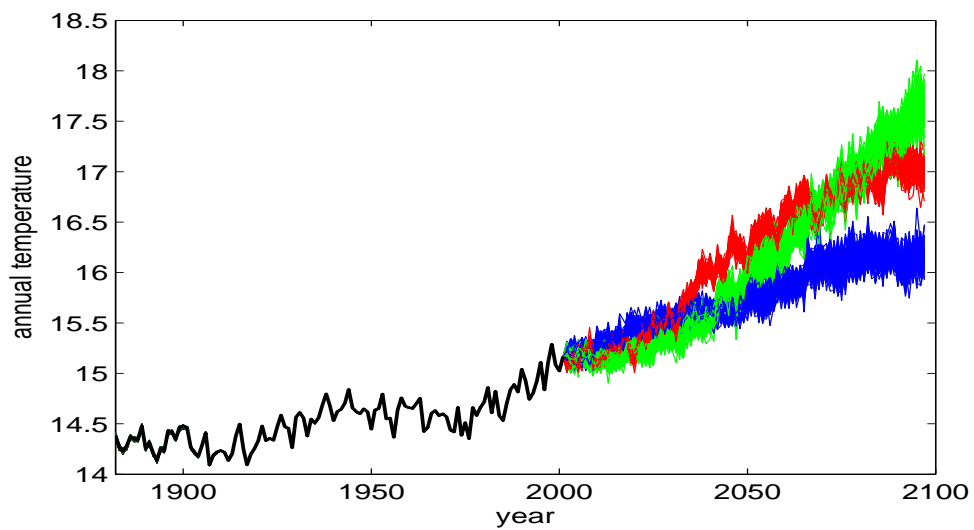
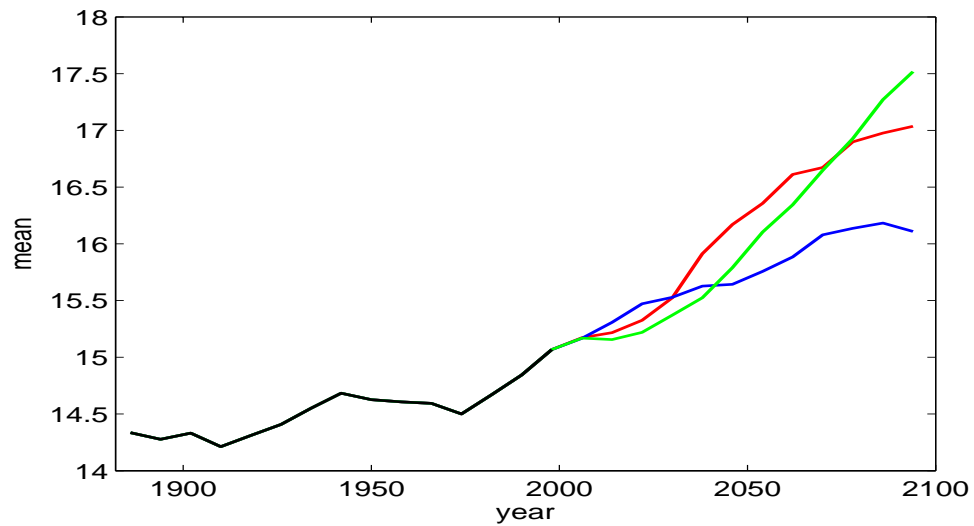


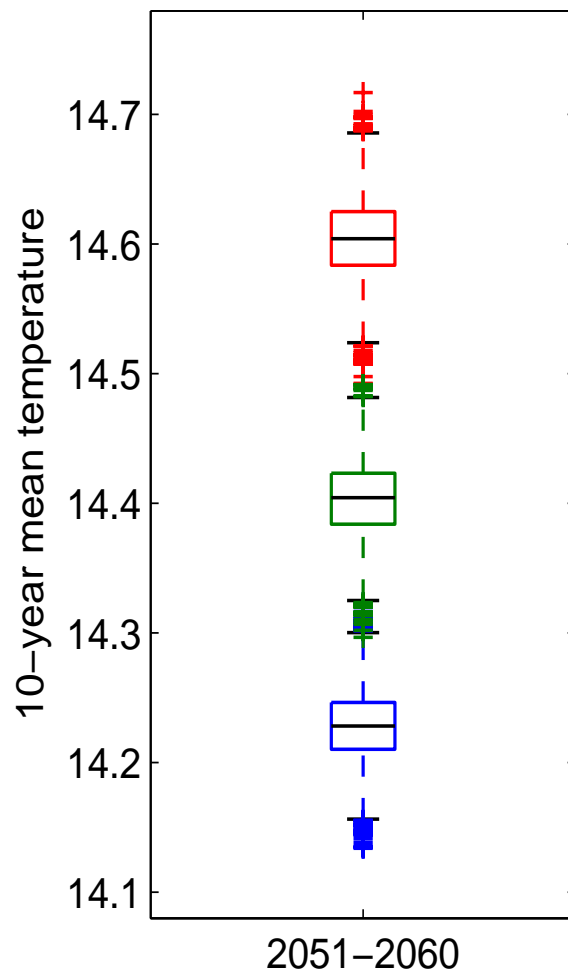
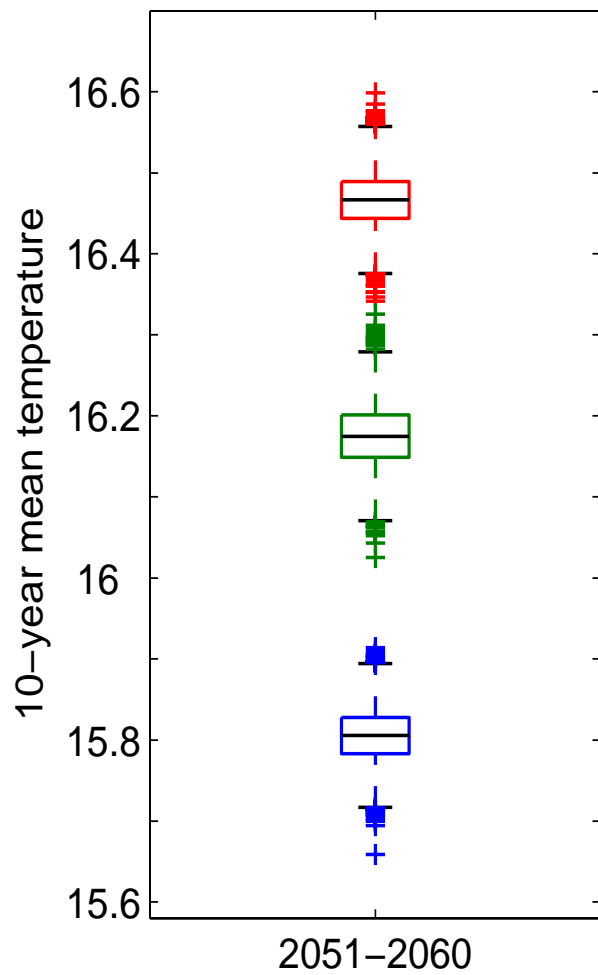


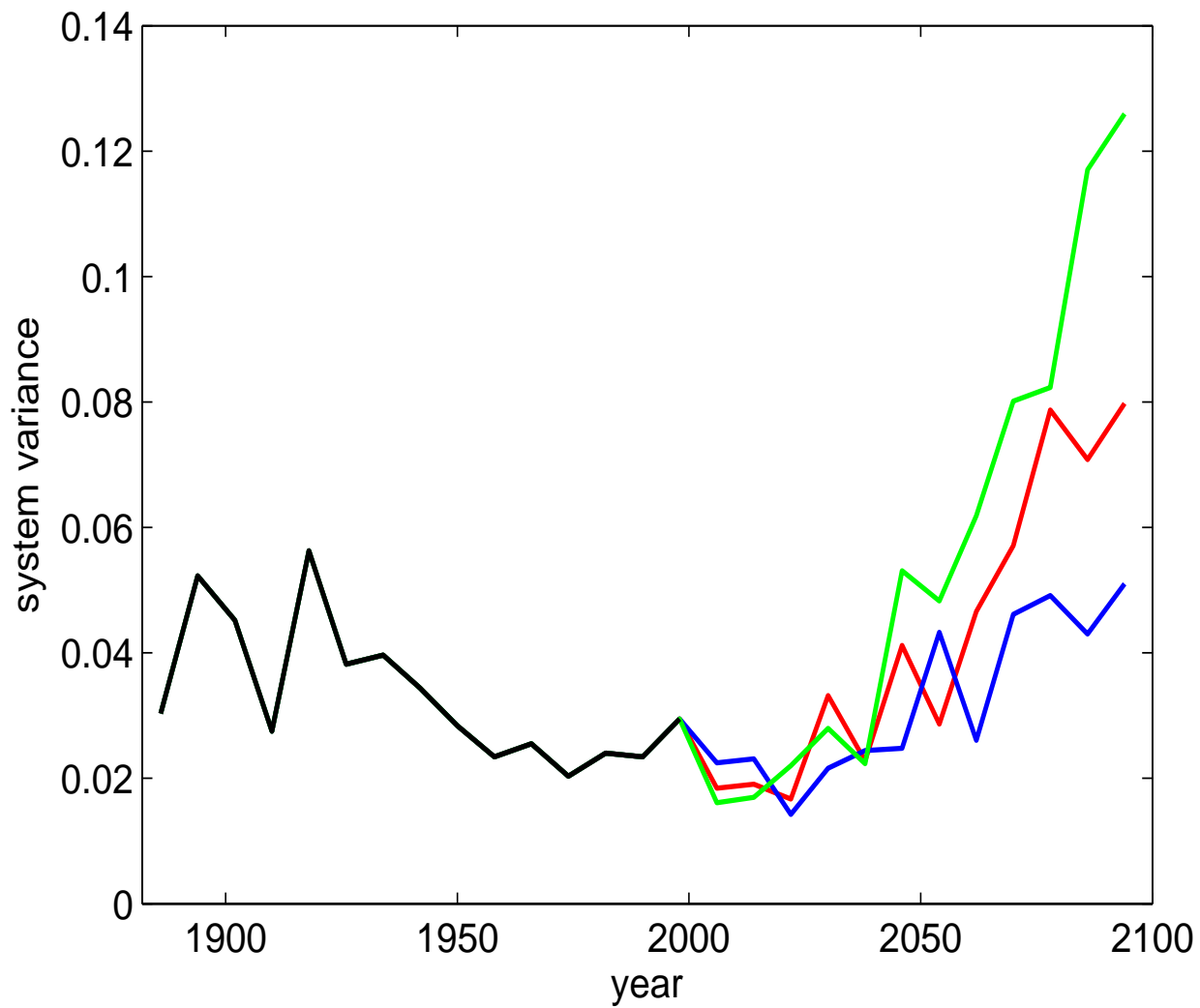


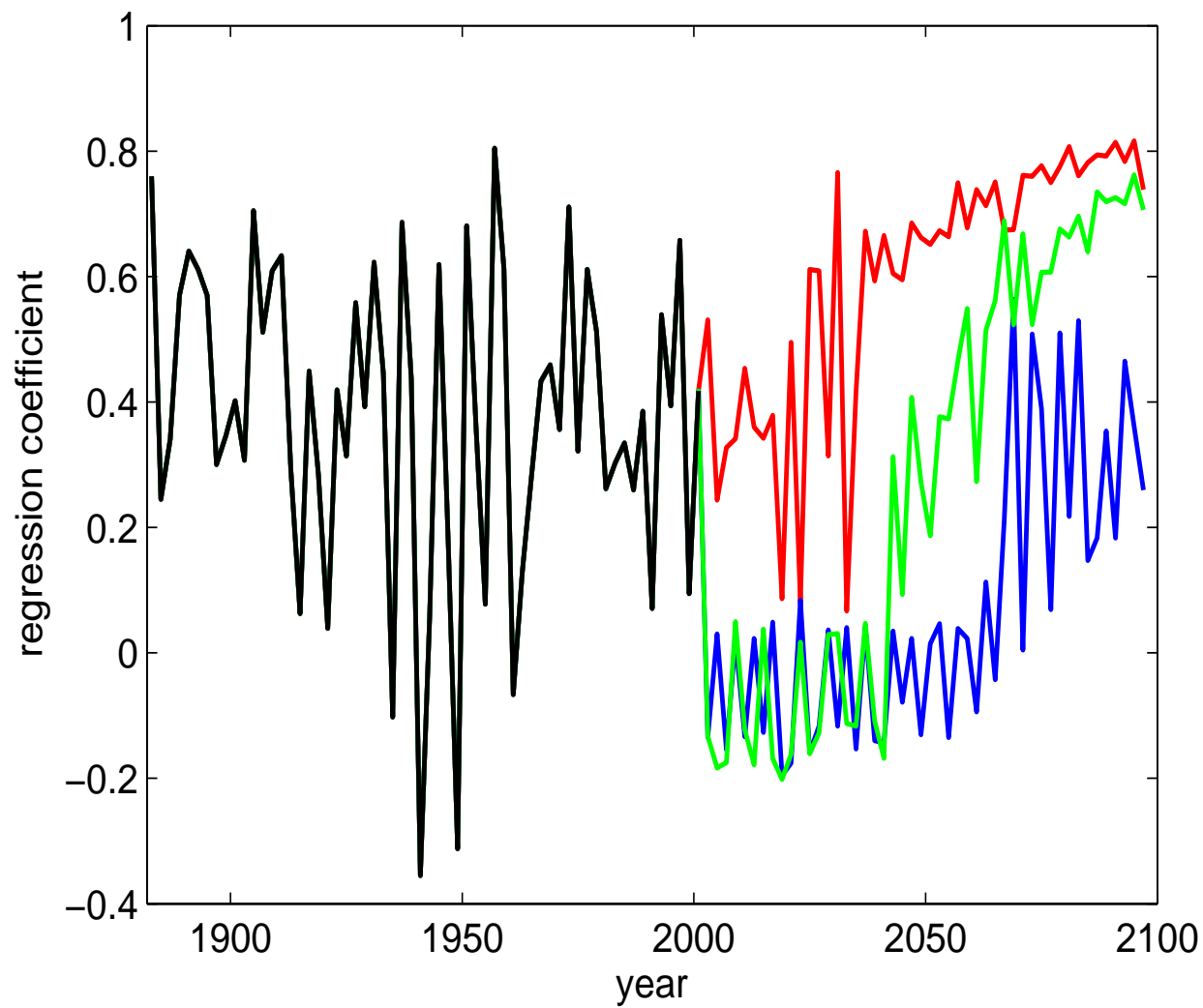












## Remarks

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- Relax simplifications; assess model.
- Information on covariances: climate model assessment; overlap real observations and model output.
- Prior on biases in fore. period are crucial
- Model classes: Model different  $\beta$ 's
  - Combine huge (expensive) & simple (cheap) models
  - One model with different parameterizations
- Dimension reduction: selection of climate variables
- Picking the models to use as data vrs the prior on  $X$
- Uninformative priors for  $X$

## Discussion

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- Combine observations and model output  
Wikle et al. (2001) JASA, Hoar et al. (2003) JCGS
  - Spatio-temporal tropical ocean winds
  - Model: features of linearized PDE & a bit of turbulence
  - Data: Scatterometer & “Analysis Fields”
- Simple models in conjunction with BHM may be better than either “more faithful models” or “statistical models”